

CITY OF BURBANK

# LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

2018

COUNCIL ADOPTED – FEBRUARY 13, 2018

AMENDED – APRIL 3, 2018

*Burbank is a city built by  
People, Pride, and Progress.*



# CITY OF BURBANK MAP



Map displays the Top 10 Burbank Employers as reported in the Burbank Business & Economic Development Annual Report 2016-2017



# BURBANK IS A CITY BUILT BY PEOPLE, PRIDE, AND PROGRESS

*Burbank is a City built by People, Pride, and Progress. Located just north of downtown Los Angeles, Burbank is proud to be the “Media Capital of the World” as it is home to Warner Bros. Entertainment, The Walt Disney Company, ABC, Cartoon Network Studios, and Nickelodeon. As a destination of choice for leisure and business travelers, Hollywood Burbank Airport provides convenient and reliable transportation services for all. While Burbank is the site of so much entertainment activity, it is also a community that is known for retaining its small town atmosphere due to a strong sense of community and civic pride.*

Due to Burbank’s central location in the region, convenient accessibility, and continued economic vitality, Burbank has evolved from a rural town into a thriving city of over 108,000 residents, with a daily workforce population of over 150,000. The residents of the City take pride in having reliable, sustainable, and affordable municipal electric and water utilities, police and fire services, recreational facilities and other high quality municipal programs and services. Burbank is known for the quality of its exceptional schools, character found in tree lined neighborhoods, and a diverse business community.

As a full service City, Burbank recognizes the need for active legislative engagement at the Local, State, and Federal levels to protect and enhance the interests of its residents and businesses. Accordingly, City officials maintain close relationships with Burbank’s State and Federal representatives to advocate, influence, and monitor pertinent legislation.

The purpose of this Legislative Platform is to clearly outline the position of the City of Burbank on priority issues and matters that impact the City’s ability to operate effectively, while allowing the consideration of additional legislative and budget issues that arise during the legislative session. In consultation with the City’s State and Federal advocacy firms, the priorities throughout the platform are intended to assist the Mayor, Council Members, and staff to proactively and appropriately address legislation to promote City interests and preserve local legislative authority if and when necessary.





## AIRPORT

- Pursue and engage in legislative and regulatory initiatives and processes that secure meaningful nighttime noise relief at Hollywood Burbank Airport for the City of Burbank and surrounding communities.
- Support legislative efforts to monitor, regulate and enforce helicopter noise in residential areas while being respectful of law enforcement and emergency first responder operations.
- Support legislation that promotes and improves public safety and counter-criminal measures at and around the airport grounds.
- Encourage the Federal Aviation Administration to develop clear rules and regulations governing the use of drones and other unmanned aircraft systems, but preserve to the greatest extent possible local control to regulate the same.

## BUDGET/MUNICIPAL FINANCE

- Engage in and advocate for legislation or ballot measures to prevent the State from borrowing, raiding or otherwise redirecting local government funds (i.e. local taxes, property taxes, etc.).
- Continue to promote increased flexibility for the utilization of municipally generated revenues (i.e. Public Education and Government fee, Utility Users Tax, Development Impact Fees, etc.).
- Oppose efforts by online travel companies to circumvent remittance of transient occupancy taxes (TOT) from hotel reservations purchased on the internet.
- Support legislation to allow AB 1717 (Utility Users Tax for Prepaid Phones) to be extended beyond the sunset date of 12/31/19.
- Support local voting on the Internet Tax Freedom Act rather than a Federally-mandated permanent ban on taxing internet use, as it could lead to a discriminatory taxing scheme against users of traditional technology.
- Oppose any effort to eliminate, or cap, the tax exempt status of municipal bonds, one of the few tools left for local governments to finance large capital projects.





## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Promote training and development initiatives that support the collaboration between community partners (including, but not limited to non-profits, Board of Education, and the Workforce Development Board) and seek additional funding to train and develop youths, veterans and underemployed individuals for 21st century jobs relevant to the City's workforce.
- Advocate for measures that support the City's continued efforts to retain and promote the success of local businesses.
- Seek, promote, and implement any new or alternative approaches that may replace redevelopment funding mechanisms that deliver positive benefits to Burbank.
- Support measures that seek to preserve and maintain the entertainment industry within the City and State; while continuing efforts to diversify the local economic base.
- Continue efforts to secure legislation that will preserve funding mechanisms to promote continued economic development, including initiatives to provide financing for infrastructure and affordable housing.
- Support Federal and State legislation and regulation for maintaining local control preserving the City's interest in telecommunication, broadband and infrastructure operations. Seek grant opportunities for expanding local broadband options.
- Support legislation that changes the allocation of sales tax for online purchases from the county pool and reallocates it to the city where the purchase is made.

## ENERGY

- Promote legislation that allows flexibility to choose which resources reliably and best fit the City's needs to cost-effectively meet energy goals.
- Support a comprehensive economy-wide approach for developing greenhouse gas reduction targets under AB 32 (Nunez, Statutes 2006) and support midterm Statewide greenhouse gas reduction targets codified in SB 32 to guide California's path toward a 40 percent reduction below 1990 levels by 2030, and an 80 percent reduction by 2050 that does not disproportionately and financially burden Burbank's electric customers.
- Seek legislation that protects funding for community owned utilities' public benefits programs within the local community.
- Support City Council authority over local net energy metering programs and policies that protect all customers from cost-shifting.
- Support legislation and regulation that would allow for the cost-effective and environmentally effective regionalization of electrical markets in the Western United States.
- Support legislation, regulation, and compliance regarding cyber-security and information sharing reform (i.e. cyber security to protect power plants).





## HOMELESSNESS

- Support a balanced approach to address homelessness that considers expanded funding opportunities for project-based permanent affordable housing for homeless families and the creation of special needs housing for those suffering from mental illness.
- Support new funding from the County, State, and Federal government for expanded Street Outreach Teams in collaboration with law enforcement, first responders, and the County's Health and Mental Health Departments.
- Advocate for Regional initiatives to reduce and prevent homelessness through social welfare, recuperative care facilities for those suffering from mental illness, and interim housing at the County, State, and Federal government levels.
- Advocate for direct Measure H formulaic funding on an annual basis for cities like Burbank that are required to contribute additional sales tax.
- Advocate for funds to implement the Burbank Homelessness Plan: Actions and Strategies to Prevent and Combat Homelessness.

## HOUSING

- Support legislation and programs that assist in providing affordable housing for extremely-low and very-low income households in the City; along with the supportive services necessary for households to sustain their housing.
- Support legislation and programs that assist in providing Housing affordable to the Burbank workforce.
- Increase the funding needs of the Section 8 program; and support programmatic changes to focus the program on the elderly, disabled, and other needy and vulnerable households.
- Support legislation and programs to increase funding for transitional housing units and permanent supportive housing units to house homeless households.

## MANDATES

- Actively support initiatives to assure timely reimbursements and oppose the imposition of unfunded Regional, State, and Federal mandates.
- Advocate for legislation amending State community care facility mandates that is mindful of the secondary impacts to and concerns of residents. For example, the City should seek State licensing of sober living facilities, provide standards of operation for all group homes, allow reasonable distance provisions to avoid overconcentration in single family neighborhoods, and provide a clear direction between protected group homes and boarding houses. The State Department of Housing and Community Development should suspend enforcement of its mandated language relating to transitional housing and unlicensed care facilities until such issues are better defined.





## PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

- Support legislation that enhances appropriate disclosure and provides accountability of public funds.
- Promote legislation that strengthens good faith negotiations between employee organizations and local agencies.
- Advocate for legislation that supports the City's ability to provide competitive and valuable employment opportunities.
- Continue to influence, where necessary and applicable, any future efforts that may impact Local government's ability to achieve and/or maintain sustainable pensions.
- Support legislation that would control medical and legal costs related to workers' compensation.
- Continue to support workers' compensation reform that is inclusive of both safety and non-safety employees.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

- Support legislation that assists in preventing and reducing crime, such as drug prevention programs, enhanced protective equipment, and solutions for homelessness.
- Support Office of Traffic Safety grant funding related to all aspects of traffic safety.
- Pursue law enforcement funding and/or reimbursement (Department of Homeland Security or Federal Emergency Management Agency) for Presidential and/or high profile visits.
- Proactively monitor and influence the implementation process of the State mandated "Public Safety Realignment Program" including reimbursement for monitoring compliance and enforcement, to ensure public safety and successful re-entry into the community.
- Seek continued financial assistance to deal with the impacts of AB109 (Public Safety Realignment) and Proposition 47 (Reduced Penalties for Some Crimes Initiative). This includes supporting legislation that addresses wrap-around services such as substance abuse counseling, mental health services, employment, medical and housing assistance.
- Promote programs that help ensure public safety through the assistance and rehabilitation of individuals challenged with mental and/or substance abuse illnesses and increase awareness and training opportunities.
- Advocate for legislation and funding that would take advantage of the latest technology to prevent and resolve crimes (i.e. the ability to use surveillance cameras, automatic license plate recognition, and DNA testing).
- Seek measures that encourage disaster preparedness and emergency planning, including funding to develop a permanent Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to further emergency management preparedness efforts. Seek funding for recovery cost due to disasters.
- Maintain local control over the ability to regulate the sales location of retail and medical marijuana operations.
- Seek State financial assistance for enforcement and regulation due to the passage of Proposition 64 and legalization of recreational marijuana.



## **PUBLIC SAFETY (cont'd.)**

- Support changes to allow marijuana businesses to have access to Federal and State banks, which eliminates potential crimes due to cash business.
- Support and advocate for Federal assistance to aid the Interagency Communications Interoperability (ICI) System – which includes seeking relief for communities that will lose public safety radio communication channels when the Federal government mandates reallocation of the “T-Band” spectrum in 2021, that is currently utilized by first responders in Burbank and surrounding communities.
- Support the funding and use of an integrated video recording system for police officers (body cameras), associated personnel and storage costs and vehicles.
- Encourage non-traditional crime prevention activities such as Federal homeless assistance and mental health initiatives.
- When conducting an engineering and traffic survey of the public streets within the boundaries of the Rancho Neighborhood (R-1-H zone), the City of Burbank may also consider equestrian safety.
- Support State and Federal measures that have the effect on reducing gun violence. (Amended April 3, 2018)

## **STATE & FEDERAL FUNDING**

- Support legislation that would increase funding for Burbank’s community services including funding for local law enforcement Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), Urban Area Security Initiatives, forensics science, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), public libraries, affordable housing, employment services, senior citizen and youth programs, maintenance and infrastructure improvements, and park and open space development, among others.
- Proactively seek continued and alternative funding sources (i.e. grants) that will benefit the City’s ability to provide valuable community services. Advocate for funding criteria that puts Burbank at a competitive advantage.
- Leverage current Tri-City efforts to attain State and Federal funding for mutually beneficial projects, facilities, and shared resources.
- Work with the US National Guard to relocate, close or consolidate the Burbank Armory with the Glendale Armory, thus enabling the City to expand Maxam Memorial Park by using the land and facility for programming and open space needs.
- Support programmatic changes to the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Programs by removing the two-year commitment deadline for the creation of affordable housing by Community Housing Development Organizations.





## SUSTAINABILITY

- Influence State legislation and regulatory initiatives that would impact Local government's ability to set local policies relating to environmental "sustainability," including, but not limited to building standards and land use planning.
- Advocate for legislation that allows local agencies to be more flexible in enhancing or expanding the notification to include more noticing to the public of projects requiring California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review. This practice would be consistent with the City's efforts to more proactively inform the public through emerging technology.
- Support efforts to streamline CEQA provisions that would result in meaningful reform to reduce out-of-date noticing provisions, allow CEQA documentation to be filed electronically with the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) and with the County, and permit the online payment of fees.
- Pursue State and Federal environmental legislation that balances the needs of the environment while taking into strong consideration competing community values.
- Support the State's goals for increased use of near-zero emissions and zero emission vehicles and support funding that goes towards the refueling infrastructure necessary for alternative fueled vehicles, with emphasis on Plug-in Electric Vehicles. Allow flexible standards for certain emergency vehicles that require traditional fuel for flexibility in certain fleet vehicles that respond to emergencies due to technology, range and terrain issues.
- Oppose any changes that would further erode the ability of Local governments to regulate wireless facilities.

## TRANSPORTATION/INFRASTRUCTURE

- Pursue and preserve Regional, State, and Federal funding opportunities, including but not limited to Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program and Congestion Management Air Quality Funds; State Cap and Trade, High Speed Rail, Gas Tax, and Active Transportation funds; and Regional Measure M, Measure R, Proposition A, and Proposition C (Transportation Sales Tax) funds, to mitigate traffic congestion and maintain/improve Burbank's infrastructure.
- Influence and monitor legislation regarding the California High Speed Rail project. Advocate for Burbank's interest on station location, route options, southern terminus of the route and promoting interconnectivity with other forms of transit, while having the least negative impact on Burbank's residents. Maximize opportunities for development focused on employment and housing within a short distance of any proposed station.
- Engage with Metro to ensure that new projects funded by the new Measure M sales tax measure – including increased Metrolink rail service and an extension of the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit line –are designed and constructed to serve Burbank's residential and employment centers, and are routed to minimize impacts to these communities.
- Advocate for transportation policies that seek to regenerate funds that support maintenance and development of Burbank's infrastructure projects, including infrastructure finance districts and other innovative financing programs.



## VETERANS

- Proactively support and advocate for initiatives, partnerships, funding, and programs to ensure veterans and their families have access to holistic services and resources including, but not limited to: physical and mental health, affordable housing, employment, and education.

## WATER

- Support administrative and legislative plans that foster the California Water Fix Alternative 4A , which provides structural improvements including three new intakes, each with 3,000 cubic-feet per second (cfs) capacity and an average annual yield of 4.9 million acre-feet and two tunnels 150 feet below ground on the Sacramento River in the northern Delta and a second tunnel system under the Delta to convey that water to the existing aqueduct system (Banks Pumping Plant at the Clifton Court Forebay), coupled with a comprehensive ecosystem restoration and protection plan for the Delta, as the best alternative to meet California's co-equal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.
- Support State and Federal funding for water ecosystem projects that are cost-effective; direct beneficiaries and cost causers should fund their fair share of infrastructure project costs that provide long-term benefits to the State and its inhabitants.
- Support efforts to maintain local control and encourage water recycling and the many benefits of sustainability to Burbank's water supply, conserving the vital resource of potable water, and reducing our dependence on imported water.
- Oppose efforts by the State or Legislature that would impose Public Benefit requirements on water utilities that transfer funding to the State for redistribution. Local Benefits efforts should retain that funding for exclusive local use.
- Actively pursue legislation and funding that support water conservation measures including, but not limited to: awareness, water storage, drought-resistant landscaping and permeable surfaces.
- Support continued work on developing regulations for the implementation of Direct Potable Reuse.